

LECTURE 1: INTRO TO RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Demonstrate an understanding of ethical and social issues relating to research, including ethical treatment of research subjects, honest reporting of research results, and appropriate acknowledgement of sources;
- Demonstrate an awareness of the social context in which research is produced and in which the results of that research is applied;
- Demonstrate a knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods and when they are used;
  
- Demonstrate an understanding of different research study designs;
- Demonstrate the ability to create and critically analyse new knowledge in health by developing a research question and designing a simple research project to answer this question;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the way health research and evidence underpins all health care practice;
- Demonstrate the ability to clearly and concisely present research proposals and findings, both written and orally;
- Demonstrate the ability to apply research evidence to health science research through the appropriate use of online literature searching, referencing and citation

**Use them for assessments to make sure they match up with the learning outcomes**

**WHAT IS RESEARCH?**

- **Research is the search for knowledge through systematic gathering.**
- Generating something new, coming to a new insight about the world around us
- Offering a new perspective on something
- A very systematic approach
  1. THINK
  2. PLAN
  3. ACT
  4. ETHICS
  5. CONTROL
  6. CHANGE

*Research is defined as a process of enquiry that involves skeptical thought, has a systematic approach, involves physical work and has ethical considerations.*

**WHAT IS HEALTH RESEARCH?**

- **Evidence based practice is 'the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions'** → there are processes of peer reviewed articles, where you need to have a critical understanding of the information.
  
- Many different types of health research – produce different forms of evidence for

different purposes:

- Clinical trials
- Epidemiological studies
- Evaluation of health care practice and policy
- Economic modeling
- Understanding health practices and contexts of health (the more you read, the more you can make a judgement about how “good” a source is)

**eg. You hear qualitative research is subjective, but it is meant to be, doesn't mean it is not as good as quantitative**